

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add a paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

The present application is a 35 U.S.C. §§ 371 national phase conversion of PCT/FR2004/001412, filed 7 June 2004, which claims priority of French Application No. 03/06995, filed 11 June 2003. The PCT International Application was published in the French language.

Please insert the following section heading at page 1, line 5:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The flexible pipes in most widespread use in oil mining are generally of the unbonded type in which the various successive and distinct layers have a certain freedom to move relative to one another and comprise, from the inside outward, a carcass consisting for example of an interlocked metal strip which serves to prevent the pipe from collapsing under external pressure, an internal sealing sheath made of polymer, a pressure vault consisting of at least one interlocked shaped wire wound in a spiral with a short pitch, armor layers known as tensile armor layers the lay angle of which, measured with respect to the longitudinal axis of the pipe, is less than 55°, and an external sealing sheath made of polymer. Such a flexible pipe is known as a rough bore pipe ~~flexible~~, the innermost element of which consists of a carcass that forms a rough bore, because of the discontinuities between the turns of the carcass.

Please insert the following section heading at page 4, line 27:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following section heading at page 6, line 4:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please insert the following section heading at page 6, line 16:

DESCRIPTION OF A PREFERRED EMBODIMENT